VANM247.001APC PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerdes et al.

Appl. No. : 09/700,130

Filed: December 18, 2001

For : CYTOTOXIN-BASED

BIOLOGICAL CONTAINMENT

Examiner : Albert Mark Navarro

Group Art Unit : 1645

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NONFINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed January 5, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.